

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 20 are amended and claims 25-26 are added; thus, the pending claims 1, 20 and 2-26 remain for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added and accordingly, entry and approval of the amended claims 1 and 20 and new claims 25-26 are respectfully requested.

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1, 20 and 23-26 are pending.

Claims 1, 20, 23 and 24 are rejected.

**ITEMS 3-4: REJECTION OF THE SPECIFICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH, AS FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION REQUIREMENT**

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action, at item 4, asserts "Claims 1 and 20 each state the limitation 'writing, in subfield including and subsequent to the second subfield, all of the cells to be written in the respective address periods of the plurality of successive display subfields in the display field.' There is insufficient description in the specification to support the same."

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 1 is amended to recite, in part, "addressing, in at least one subfield including and subsequent to the second subfield and substantially near a head of the display field, all of the cells to be written in the respective address periods of the plurality of successive display subfields in the display field." Support for the claim amendment can be found, for example, in the original specification at page 9, lines 14-24 and in FIGS. 8 and 9.

Independent claim 20 is amended similarly to independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection of the specification is respectfully requested.

**ITEMS 5-6: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 20, 23 AND 24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, AS FAILING TO PARTICULARLY POINT OUT AND DISTINCTLY CLAIM THE SUBJECT MATTER.**

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action, at item 6, asserts "Claims 1 and 20 each state the limitation 'writing, in subfield including and subsequent to the second subfield, all of the cells to be written in the respective address periods of the plurality of successive display subfields in the display field.' This limitation is unclear because the examiner is not sure whether the applicant means only one of the subfields including and subsequent to the second subfield or does this mean that all of the subfields including and subsequent to the second subfield are written."

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 1 is amended to recite, in part, "addressing, in at least one subfield including and subsequent to the second subfield and substantially near a head of the display field, all of the cells to be written in the respective address periods of the plurality of successive display subfields in the display field." Support for the claim amendment can be found, for example, in the original specification at page 9, lines 14-24 and in FIGS. 8 and 9.

Independent claim 20 is amended similarly to independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 20 comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is respectfully requested.

**ITEMS 7-9: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 20, 23 AND 24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a), AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER CORREA ET AL., EP 1,174,850 (HEREINAFTER "CORREA"), IN VIEW OF SANO ET AL., U.S. PATENT NO. 6,115,011 (HEREINAFTER "SANO").**

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 1 is amended to recite, in part: "addressing, in at least one subfield including and subsequent to the second subfield and substantially near a head of the display field, all of the cells to be written in the respective address periods of the plurality of successive display subfields in the display field; writing in said at least one subfield, after said addressing, an inclined waveform suppressing an accumulation of a wall charge in unselected cells." Support for the claim amendment can be found, for example, in FIGS. 8 and 9 and in the original specification, at page 14, lines 24-30. Applicants respectfully submit that Correa and Sano fail to disclose, either expressly or implicitly, the same.

Correa discusses a "self-priming sub-field" having a lower addressing speed, a higher writing voltage and having dual writing pulses (see, paragraph [0022] of Correa). However, Correa fails to disclose, either expressly or implicitly, the claimed "writing in said at least one subfield, after said addressing, an inclined waveform suppressing an accumulation of a wall charge in unselected cells," as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Sano, at column 6, lines 11-17, recites:

In order to stabilize the address discharging, **a priming discharging period is provided before address discharging**, in which a voltage waveform as shown in FIG. 7 is furnished to each electrode, and all cells are turned off after they are illuminated once simultaneously to furnish a predetermined wall charge on the dielectric layer covering the electrode, for initializing all the cells.

(emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Sano fails to disclose, either expressly or implicitly, the claimed "writing in said at least one subfield, after said addressing, an inclined waveform suppressing an accumulation of a wall charge in unselected cells," because Sano only discusses that a priming discharge period is provided before address discharging.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be based upon Correa and Sano, because there is no evidence that one skilled in the art would combine Correa's self-priming sub-field with Sano's priming discharge period, and modify the combination to include the claimed "writing in said at least one subfield, after said addressing, an inclined waveform suppressing an accumulation of a wall charge in unselected cells."

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20 patentably distinguishes over the cited references for similar reasons as independent claim 1.

Dependent claims 23 and 24 are patentably distinguishing at least due to their dependence from the independent claims and/or for reciting patentably distinguishing features of their own. Withdrawal of the rejection of the pending claims and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

#### **NEW CLAIMS:**

New claim 25 is related to a method for driving a plasma display panel, including:

applying, to the second electrodes, in an initial first subfield in the display field having a lightest illuminance weight and a reset period, a first-waveform voltage in which the applied voltage increases as time elapses;

applying, to the second electrodes, a second-waveform voltage in which the applied voltage decreases as time lapses;

applying a scan pulse to the second electrodes and an address pulse to the third electrodes in order to write all the cells to be lit in any of the subfields subsequent to the first subfield in the display field in the address period;

applying, to the second electrodes, a third-waveform voltage in which the applied voltage decreases as time lapses;

applying a positive pulse to the third electrodes between the

address period and the sustain period; and  
applying a sustain pulse to at least ones of the first and second electrodes so that a voltage different, between the first and second electrodes alternately becomes a predetermined value in the sustain period.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 patentably distinguishes over the cited references. Support for claim 25 can be found, for example, in the specification at page 13, line 7 to page 18, line 24.

New claim 26 is related to a method for driving a plasma display panel, including:

applying, to the second electrodes, in an initial first subfield in the display field having a lightest illuminance weight, and in a second subfield subsequent to the first subfield having a second lightest illuminance weight, the first and second subfields each having a reset period, a first-waveform voltage that the applied voltage increases as time elapses;

applying, to the second electrodes, a second-waveform voltage in which the applied voltage decreases as time lapses, and wherein the second subfield applies a scan pulse to the second electrodes and an address pulse to the third electrodes in order to write all the cells to be lit in any of the subfields including and subsequent to the second subfield in the display field in the address period;

applying, to the second electrodes, a third-waveform voltage in which the applied voltage decreases as time lapses, and applying a positive pulse to the third electrodes between the address period and the sustain period; and

applying a sustain pulse to at least selected ones of the first and second electrodes so that a voltage difference between the first and second electrodes alternately becomes a predetermined value in the sustain period.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 26 patentably distinguishes over the cited references. Support for claim 26 can be found, for example, in the specification at page 13, line 7 to page 18, line 24.

### **CONCLUSION**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

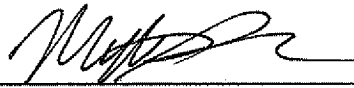
Serial No. 10/661,535

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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